A REVIEW OF THE STATE OF THE BRITISH NATION.

Tuesday, May 16. 1710.

NOW really, Gentlemen, there is no holding any longer; hitherto I have thought all our Addreſſes were Jeſting with one another, and Bantering the Queen——— And that they were only Working in the Country, to keep their newly begotten Brat alive, and Maintain it freſh in the Memories of theſe People; and conſidering them as a Party, I really did not wonder at them.

It is true, I could not Join with them in the Fulſome and Fooliſh Addreſſes, on ſundry Accounts; I could not join with our Brethren and Friends, of the High-Flyers, in their talking of Republican Principles, in this Caſe; becauſe I ſee none of thoſe Principles broach'd, or any way concerned in the Debate; I could not join in the Cry againſt Blaſphemous Books, and Principles Deſtructive of all Religion, as well Natural as Reveal'd, being Printed, Publiſh'd, and Diſperſed among us, becauſe really they are all Written by *High-Church* Authors, of our own Party; almoſt every one of their Authors, are *Jacobites*, *Non-Furors*, or profeſs'd *High-Flyers*.

But now I am come over——— And being tainted with a powerful Injection, of High-Church Frenzy, behold I am become as Frantick, as any of them—— being reſolv'd for at leaſt eight and forty Hours, to be a *Jacobite*, a *Non-Furor*, and a *High-Flyer*, in the Primitive abſtracted Senſe; and while this Operation laſteth, wonder not

not, if you see me much more Lunatick than my Brethren.

The first step I shall take, to shew you I am compleatly possess'd, is to join in, and when ever they please to desire me, to set both my Hands to, and toss up my Cap for a late Address, said to be presented to her Majesty, from the Town of *Banbury*, in *Oxfordshire* —— Which because it is very peculiar, and the first of the kind, that ever I could heartily join in, I must give you an Abstract of, as I find it Printed and Publish'd, by our true Friend, and zealous Assistant, Mr. *Post-Boy*, as follows.

The Humble Address of the Mayor, High-Steward, Recorder, Aldermen, Burgesses, Assistants, and Principal Inhabitants of the Borough of *BANBURY*, in the County of *Oxon.*

Most Gracious Sovereign,

WE *Your Majesty's most Dutiful and Loyal Subjects, being always truly sensible of your Majesty's pious Care of, and fervent Zeal for the Welfare and Prosperity of our most holy Religion, and happy Constitution, crave leave to renew our Assurances of our inviolable Duty and Loyalty to Your Majesty, by testifying our just Detestation and Abhorrence of the Seditious Principles of those, who, under the specious pretence of securing the Rights, Liberties, and Properties of the People, have, of late, openly professed, and endeavour'd to propigate the Doctrine of Resistance; a Doctrine equally destructive of your just Prerogative, and of (what it would seem to secure to us) the Well-being of your People; contrary to the Law of God, and the Practices both of the Apostles, and Primitive Christians, even in the most Perilous Times; and the more abominable, as this Furniture, (as it is a Sin without Temptation) under the best and mildest of Governments.*

The Sense of our Duty to God, Your Majesty, and our most happy Constitution, shall always keep us firm to our old English Principles of Loyalty to our Sovereign, and teach us to transmit the same to our latest Posterity; That if God Almighty shall deny us the Blessing of Issue from your Majesty, to reign over us, After-Ages may enjoy, under the Government establish'd by Law in the Illustrious House of Hannover, the same Blessings we now, and long may we, enjoy, under Your Majesty's most serene and auspicious Reign.

This Text needs no Comment, it is an evident proof, to what a Degree of Loyalty we are a coming, and I hope you will all improve in it, by my Example; for being enter'd upon this first step of Conversion, and come the length of our *Banbury* Friends, it is a necessary Consequence of so much Zeal, that we should go forward; and therefore if I can obtain her Majesty's Consent, (and have the Honour to be introdue'd by a Duke, &c.) that my Address shall be receiv'd—I would resolve to present another most humble, and equally dutiful Address to Her Majesty, as the Consequence of this famous Address from *Banbury*, which has so effectually Converted me—— My Addres would no doubt, have a great many Hand, nor can I believe, but the Gentlemen of *Banbury*, will give me leave to make use of their Names, since it is so direct a Consequence of their Address already Punished; and the Contents of it shall be as follows.

To the Queen's De Facto's most Excellent Majestie.

The Humble Address of, &c. ——

" We Your Majesty's most Dutiful and
" Loyal Subjects, being deeply sensible of
" the just Anger of Heaven, against this
" whole Nation, as well your Majesty as
" your People, for the many Hainous
" Sins, whereof we are all avowedly
" Guilty, and for which we have great
" Reason to fear, that some imminent
" Judgment shall suddenly befall us; and
" being more particularly affected, with
" the great Guilt that lies on the Nation,
" for Traiterously espouling that Abomi-
" nable Doctrine of Resistance; a Sin
" without a Temptation, and a Sin we
" were never so much as now, truly sen-
" sible of; do most humbly Address your
" Majesty, and in the lowest manner possi-
" ble, beseech your Majesty, That, you
" will be pleased to Issue out your Royal

" Pro-

" Proclamator, appointing a Solemn Day " of Faſting and Humiliation, throughout " Your Majeſty's Dominions, on ſuch cer- " tain Day or Days, as to your Majeſty " ſhall ſeem meet —— In order to Depre- " cate the juſt Anger of Heaven, and to " avert the Judgments we have ſo juſt Rea- " ſon to fear, are Impending over us, for " being Nationally Guilty of Reſiſting, " and living in Rebellion, againſt our " Lawful and Anointed King, your Ma- " jeſty's Royal Father, who we un- " righteouſly Oppos'd, and Depos'd, as " we to our great Grief and Sorrow, now " underſtand; *Reſiſtance of the Sovereign " being utterly unlawful, upon any pretence " whatſoever*; and that humble Prayers " may at the ſame time be made, by all " Your Majeſty's good Subjects, that the " Heir Male of our ſaid Sovereign, and " your Majeſty's Royal Father, and his " Adherents, may be proſper'd in all their " Righteous Endeavours, to reſtore him " to the Throne of his Anceſtors, from " which he was thus Illegally thruſt out, " by an ungodly Reſiſtance, and of which " Your Majeſty by Virtue of that ungodly " Reſiſtance, is poſſeſs'd.

" God preſerve your Majeſty's Royal " Perſon, and give your Majeſty as long, as " proſperous, and as glorious a Reign, as " may conſiſt —— with our juſt Senſe of the " Hainous Sins abovesaid, and with that " Repentance which we deſire to expreſs, " for our ſaid Reſiſtance and Rebellion, a- " gainſt our Lawful King, whoſe Divine " Right we are ſince inſtructed, no Hu- " mane Power could ſuperſede.

Now Gentlemen, if I am not a true Convert, *let any one judge*; I hope, and am perſuaded, none of our *Banbury* Friends (R ——s) will ſuggeſt, that I have done them the leaſt Injury, or that I have not expreſs'd the clear Senſe of the Party, and what they will allow to be the genuine meaning of their Addreſs, for certainly *if Reſiſting* be *a Sin now*, it was *a Sin* 22 Years ago; *if it be a Truth*, that no *preſence whatſoever*, could juſtifie Reſiſtance then; it muſt follow, that Popery, Invaſion of Law, Liberty, Church, College, Property, Chaſtity, Life, or any thing, can be no juſt pretence now; *nor could be then* —— If K. *James* could not juſtly *be Reſiſted*; much leſs could he be juſtly *Depoſed*; neither could his *Abdication* juſtifie the People, to ſet any Body on his Throne, *but his Son*, or to keep his Son *Out*, when he was Dead —— And therefore the Sin is entailed, there is no doubt —— And the Nation is as Guilty under this Reign *of continuing* the Revolution Eſtabliſhment, as they were in the laſt *of making it*.

If it be a *National* Sin, it ought to be repented of *Nationally*, and *Nationally* reform'd; for Repentance without Reformation, *Divinity itſelf agrees*, is mocking our Maker, and is really no Repentance at all —— Now as we hope we are beginning in a right Chriſtian Method, *there is no doubt* but we ſhall go on too.

The firſt ſtep *you know* towards Heaven, in a Convert, is *Conviction*; this appears in our *Banbury Chriſtians*; Humiliation is the next, and that I propoſe —— There is nothing remains but *Reformation*, that is, breaking off the Wicked Courſe, returning to the former Rectitude *of Conſtitution* —— Without which, all the reſt is nothing at all but Mockery, and inſulting our Maker —— And when this is done, the Nation may hope to be deliver'd.

I might Dilate a little here, upon the terrible Judgments this Land groans under, at this Time; occaſion'd by thus long continuing in this great Sin of *Rebellion* and *Reſiſtance*, ſuch as *the Curſe* of Liberty, *the Plague* of Parliaments, *the Deformity* of being Govern'd by Law, the *new Diſtemper* of Union, *the King's Evil*, called by a modern Name Proteſtant Succeſſion, *the Frenzy* of Proteſtant Religion, *and the like*; which if it would pleaſe God but to deliver us from, and to free us from this deadly Sin of Reſiſtance, we might in time, come to enjoy the Invaluable Bleſſings, of *Popiſh* Devotion, *Arbitrary* Domination, *French* Conſtitution, *Golden* Chains, moſt Beautiful *Wooden-Shoes*, Jure Divino *Princes*, Paſſively-obedient *Slavery*, and Univerſal *Bondage of Subjects* —— With all the Wealth, Plenty, Commerce, and Peace, that conſtantly attends Tyrrany ——

Things

Things which have brought the *French* Nation to that height of Prosperity (Starving) that we now see them happily arriv'd to—But I have not Room to enlarge on these things at present———

Advertisment to the BREAD-EATERS *of the Nation.*

THE Author of this Paper, had been very forward in your Service, by telling the Bakers their Duty, upon the beginning of the late Act of Parliament, and a little exposing them too, in giving the Reasons and Necessity of such an Act: But finds himself under some Necessity of Addressing himself to you also, and to let you know, that it is certainly possible for you to be in the wrong sometimes; that there is a Justice due from you to the Bakers, and that this Act was not made to oppress the Bakers; but to keep the Bakers from Oppressing you.

I am also to hint to you, that these People called Bakers, are certain useful Folk in their Way, Inhabiting among us, who follow a most necessary Calling, and (if kept within Bounds) as I hope by this Law they may, they are a People we cannot well be without.

And lastly I am to hint to you, that the Frauds put upon you in your Bread, are easier to be known, and by Consequence sooner Remedied at the Bakers, than at any other Place; and that you ought to take heed, that in Flying from the Baker, because he Cheats you a little, you do not give your self up to the Meal-Man, to Cheat you a great deal; and that in shunning the Baker, because he Cheats you before your Face, and you know it——— *for now you may know it*; you don't come to the Mercy of the Meal-Man, whose Fraud you cannot discover.

These General Cautions you may please to make use of a little while, perhaps hereafter I may speak to them more at large, and shew you, that this Act of Parliament is not such a Bug-bear, but that a Medium may be found out, to make both the Bakers and their Customers easie, without being a continual Torture to the Law, and to the Magistrates.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

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Printed for the Author; and sold by *John Baker*, at the *Black Boy* in *Pater-Noster-Row* 1710.